



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Sonya Blake
(213) 897-9548

GOVERNOR'S ADVOCATE FOR SMALL BUSINESS TO ALERT SMALL BUSINESSES TO PROPOSED REGULATIONS

SACRAMENTO – The Governor's Office of the Advocate for Small Business (ASB) has begun a new program that provides a single place on the web to learn about proposed state regulations that may impact small businesses.

The "Small Business Regulatory Bulletin" program is designed to encourage small businesses to participate more fully in state's regulatory process by reviewing proposed regulations and offering comments and feedback back to state agencies.

"Running a small business is a full-time job and then some," said Sonya Blake, Governor Davis' Advocate for Small Business. "Few small business owners have time to regularly review the new regulations proposed each month by state agencies to determine which ones may or may not impact their business.

"Through this service, my office can help them focus on those regulations they should pay attention to and encourage their civic involvement in reviewing these regulations and offering comments that will improve the regulations from the small business perspective."

The bulletins are developed from materials present in the California Regulatory Notice Register prepared each month by the Office of Administrative Law. The bulletins can be accessed on the ASB web site at: <http://www.smallbusiness.ca.gov/content/TaskForce.shtml#envisioning>

Blake said the job of identifying which regulations impact small business is done by the state agencies themselves under current law, and that her office makes no judgment on whether the regulations are good or bad for business, or how they ought to be improved. That analysis is best done by the small businesses themselves, Blake said, adding that the bulletins are not an effort to 'target' a proposed regulation but only to help ensure that state agencies hear from a broad perspective of constituents as they develop regulations.

The bulletins will be issued each month, Blake said. Each listing of a regulation will include a short summary of what the proposed regulation is intended to do, the schedule of any planned public hearing and the deadline for submitting public comments. Blake emphasized that interested small businesses should check the bulletins regularly as the public comment period is usually no more than 45 days long.

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